

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO
EASTERN DIVISION

CECIL KOGER,)
Plaintiff,) Case No. 4:17-CV-02409
v.) Judge Benita Y. Pearson
GARY MOHR, et al.,)
Defendants.) **AFFIDAVIT OF CECIL KOGER**

CECIL KOGER, having been first duly sworn according to law, hereby deposes and states of his personal knowledge as follows:

1. I am of legal age and sound mind, capable of making this affidavit, and personally acquainted with the facts herein stated.
2. I am currently an inmate at Richland Correctional Institution ("RCI").
3. Prior to RCI, I was an inmate at Trumbull Correctional Institution ("TCI").
I have been housed in several different Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction ("ODRC") facilities since 2000.
4. I have been a committed member of the Nyahbinghi Rastafarian Order since 2000. My family has practiced Rastafarianism for multiple generations.
5. I have requested several accommodations in the past to allow me to practice Rastafarianism. These include requests to keep my dreadlocks, to have communion with other Rastafarians through "groundings," to fast



and diet according to my religion, and receive Rastafarian literature. True and accurate copies of some of the accommodation requests I submitted to ODRC are attached as Exhibit 1.

6. My branch of Rastafarianism, the Nyahbinghi Rastafarian Order, requires adherents to wear dreadlocks. This is in accordance with the Nazarite vow. Rastafarians believe that this practice is commanded by the Bible: "They shall not make baldness upon their head, neither shall they shave off the corner of their beard, nor make any cutting in their flesh." LEVITICUS 21:5.
7. Rastafarianism requires me to practice a specific diet, called *ital*, which prohibits consuming processed foods.
8. My faith also requires me to fast on particular days throughout the year, and to celebrate religious holidays in worship services called "groundings."
9. I continue to attempt to diet and fast according to my religious beliefs, but ODRC does not facilitate my particular diet or fasting on the days required by Rastafarianism.
10. Despite the lack of accommodation at ODRC facilities, Rastafarianism requires me to find opportunities to eat and fast according to my religious beliefs.
11. I am not a Muslim.

12. Individuals who desire to fast are required to sign an accommodation form – this form is the only way for Rastafarians at TCI to fast in accordance with their own religious beliefs.
13. On April 11, 2018, I submitted an accommodation form to fast during Ramadan. A true and accurate copy is attached as Exhibit 2. On April 26, 2018, I submitted a new accommodation form identifying as Rastafarian. A true and accurate copy is attached as Exhibit 3.
14. I have fasted during Ramadan in the past because it occasionally aligns with the fasting days observed by Rastafarianism. ODRC will not allow me to fast as a Rastafarian, and this is one of the only ways for me to fast at ODRC facilities without being subject to discipline.
15. In August, 2016, I submitted a notarized statement asking why TCI would not let me fast as a Rastafarian and alleging discrimination. A true and accurate copy of this statement is attached as Exhibit 4.
16. During Ramadan, when ODRC will permit Muslim inmates to fast, I often prepare special meals in the ODRC kitchen for both Muslims and Rastafarians.
17. I personally know other Rastafarians in ODRC facilities who diet and fast under the same Muslim accommodations simply because it is their best opportunity to practice according to their religious beliefs.

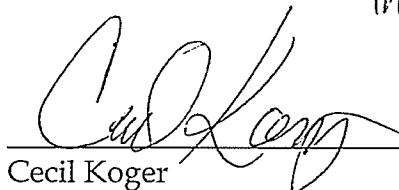
18. I have told many Muslim inmates and spiritual advisors in ODRC facilities that I am a Rastafarian fasting to exercise my own religious beliefs.
19. If ODRC facilities allowed Rastafarians to receive diet and fasting accommodations, I would not be forced to request exemptions as a Muslim simply so that I may practice my religion more faithfully.
20. In 2014, I was transferred to Trumbull Correctional Institution ("TCI"). In June of 2016, I was informed that TCI would remove my dreadlocks. I attempted to receive an exemption through several levels of appeal and was denied an exemption for my dreadlocks.
21. On September 21, 2016, Deputy Warden Bowen issued me a direct order to cut my dreadlocks.
22. When I informed ODRC that I would not comply with an order to cut my hair because it violates my religious beliefs, Deputy Warden Bowen and Warden Charmaine Bracy told me that I could not receive a religious accommodation for my dreadlocks because Rastafarianism is not recognized by ODRC.
23. As a result of my refusal to cut my hair, I was placed in the segregation unit.
24. I attempted to appeal the decision of the Rule Infraction Board, again asserting my religious beliefs, but my appeal was denied. *See Exhibit 5.*
25. On November 2, 2016, TCI staff arrived at my cell to cut my dreadlocks.

26. According to my Rastafarian beliefs, November 2 is the most sacred day of the year, and it commemorates the coronation of Haile Selassie as Emperor of Ethiopia.
27. When I refused to have my dreadlocks cut, I was covered with oleoresin capsicum spray, and my dreadlocks were shaved off without my consent.
28. Before ODRC officials cut my hair on November 2, 2016, I gave them oral and written notice that I believed cutting my hair would sever my connection to the most high, and would be a desecration of my religious beliefs. *See Exhibit 4; See also* video of haircut, which will be filed manually with the Court as Exhibit 6 to Cecil Koger's Affidavit.
29. The forced cutting of my dreadlocks has emotionally traumatized me, and I feel that TCI took away part of my religious identity.
30. Since the forced cutting, I have continued to grow dreadlocks as an exercise of my Rastafarian beliefs.
31. I fear that ODRC will forcibly cut my dreadlocks in the future.
32. I have been growing my hair naturally with dreadlocks for at least twenty years and have never concealed contraband or weapons in my dreadlocks.
33. ODRC classifies me as a Level 2 security level. I have had my dreadlocks searched many times, during which I was asked to shake my hair out and make it searchable.
34. I have no knowledge of any inmates hiding contraband in their hair.
35. My dreadlocks naturally grow thicker than 1/2 inch.

36. My dreadlocks will only grow thinner than 1/2 inch through manipulation, which is prohibited by Rastafarianism.
37. I know of other Rastafarians in ODRC facilities who currently have dreadlocks that are thicker than 1/2 inch.
38. I am not opposed to ODRC facilities searching my dreadlocks by any other reasonable means other than cutting my dreadlocks, including with metal detectors, x-rays, or other imaging technology, or by manual searching ODRC staff members with additional safety equipment and/or personnel.

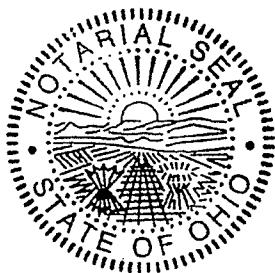
FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NAUGHT

39. It would be a desecration
to hide or place anything
inside of RASTAFARIAN
LOCKS.


Cecil Koger

CK


SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED before me, a Notary Public in and for said county
and state, this 2 day of ^{April} March, 2019.



ANDREW GERONIM
Attorney At Law
NOTARY PUBLIC
STATE OF OHIO
My Commission was issued
No Expiration Date
Section 147.03 O.R.C.


4/2/2019

NOTARY PUBLIC
My commission expires: Never

**Ohio | Department of
Rehabilitation & Correction**

John R. Kasich, Governor
Gary C. Mohr, Director

Decision of the Religious Services Administrator
Request for Accommodation
Of Religious Practice

Cecil Kroger #384-698
Trumbull Correctional Institution
P.O. Box 901
Leavittsburg, OH 44030

RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION: Rastafarian

You have requested accommodation of the following practice based upon the reason indicated:

Request to have hair exemption for religious reasons.

Your request states a:

- Religious Issue
 Non-Religious Issue

It is the decision of the Religious Services Administrator that the request for Accommodation of Religious Practice should be:

- Approved
 Not Approved

Reason:

Your request, *Cecil Kroger #384-698*, for hair exemption is disapproved. This is not a religious issue. It is subject to DRC 65-GRM-01.

Signature: *Michael Davis* *lac* Date: November 30, 2016
Michael Davis, Ph. D.
Religious Services Administrator

Tracking Process

- Chaplains reviews request and makes recommendation
- Request is reviewed by Chaplain, DWSS, and DWO/Designee.
- Accommodation is forwarded to Warden for Warden's response.
- Warden's decision is forward back to inmate and Chaplain's office is copied.
- Inmate receives decision and may appeal if desired.
- Warden forwards appeal to OOP for Religious Services Administrator decision.
- Religious Services Administrator reviews in consultation with Legal, Chief Inspector, and STG as needed.
- The final decision is made by the Religious Services Administrator (copy of final decision is filed).
- The decision is returned to the Institutional Chaplain, the DWSS, and Warden is copied and inmate is notified
- C: Warden, Chaplain, Inmate's On Base File and Inmate

Operation Support Center - Religious Services • 770 W. Broad Street • Columbus, Ohio 43222
www.drc.ohio.gov

Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction
Institution Religious Accommodation Review Committee

Response To Request For Religious Accommodation

Offender Name: KOGER, CECIL	Number: 384698
Current Religious Affiliation: Rastafarian	RE: DRC4326 Dated: 10/28/2016

Chaplain Recommendation:

Offender KOGER, CECIL, offender number 384698 is listed in DOTS as a Rastafarian since 08/04/2005. His request is to grow his hair. The official statement issued by the Religious Service Administrator: "The growing of hair is not a granted religious accommodation. This issue is addressed by DRC policy 65-GRM-01 and AR 5120-9-25-1". Referring to RSA at Operations Support Center.

RECEIVED

NOV 26 2016

Religious Services

Chaplain's Signature:

Date:

11/03/2016

Accommodation Review Committee Response:

Do not recommend accommodation based on policy 65-GRM-01.

Committee Chairperson Signature:

Date:

11-7-16

Warden's Decision: Approved Disapproved Refer to Reg. Religious Services Admin.

Comment Violation of policy 65-GRM-01 & with AR 5120-9-25-1
 Religious accommodation
 is not granted for hair
 growth. Policy 65-GRM-01
 is addressed by [Signature]

Signature:

Date:

11-08-16

11-20-16

Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction

Request For Religious Accommodation

To: Chaplain's Office**From:**

Offender Name:	Cecil Hooper	Number:	384 -C&E
Institution:	T.C.I	Date:	10-28-16

1. What is the religion to which you belong?

Rastafari = THE ORDER OF NYABINGI

2. What is the specific accommodation that you are requesting?

Exemption from Grooming Policy

To grow hair naturally allowing hair to take its natural course in locks.

3. What is the basis for your requested religious accommodation (How is your request supported by the writings or traditions of your religion)? Rastafari - Livlyi; RE WRITTEN BY

RAS ANTESSA EBANKS; THE KEBRA NEGAST ALL MANSIONS OF Rastafari grow their hair naturally for locks to form it is MANDATE FOR THE TRUE RASTA. Its found in the Bible as well as the other books mentioned above.

4. Who are the religious leaders who can verify this request (Please give address and phone numbers, if available)? Rastafari Elders, Ras Iacobis From Lion of Suddah SOCIETY church of the NAZARENE.

RAS Jacob Marley, RAS. Sully "Bobbi Sullivan" Rastafari Universal Order
Prison Ministers "R.U.O."
The Church of Haile Selassie I 24 oxford st 420 "A" Gates Avenue
BA Beta Kristyan, P.O. Box 334 Brooklyn, Ny 11216

Offender's Signature:	Cecil Hooper	Date:	10-28-16
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This form is for approval of religious practices or beliefs not currently approved by the ODRC.

**Ohio | Department of
Rehabilitation & Correction**

John R. Kasich, Governor
Gary C. Mohr, Director

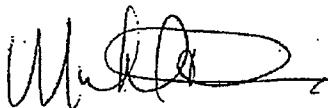
November 30, 2016.

Cecil Kroger #384-698
Trumbull Correctional Institution
P.O. Box 901
Leavittsburg, OH 44030

Dear Mr. Kroger,

In response to your Offender's Appeal of Decision Regarding Religious Accommodation, the documentation submitted does not include the DRC 4327 Response to Request for Religious Accommodation. Therefore, I am returning your DRC form 4326 Request for Religious Accommodation for complete processing through the institution Chaplain.

Sincerely,



Dr. Michael Davis
Religious Services Administrator

Operation Support Center - Religious Services • 770 W. Broad Street • Columbus, Ohio 43222
www.drc.ohio.gov

RECEIVED

JUL 25 2013

Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction
Request To Change Religious Affiliation

Religious Services

To: Chaplain's Office

From:

Inmate Name	Cecil Keiper	Number	# 384628
Institution		Date	7-8-13

Present Religious Affiliation	Muslim Baha'
The Religious Affiliation To Which You Desire To Change To	Muslim
Reason For Requesting This Change	Ramadan

Inmate's Signature	Cliff Keiper	Date	7-8-13
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Chaplain	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approved	<input type="checkbox"/> Disapproved	
Chaplain's Signature	Chaplain [Signature]		
			Date 7-8-2013

Inmates must wait 12 months before application to change affiliation again



Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction

Religious Services
770 West Broad Street
Columbus, OH 43222

Ted Strickland, Governor

www.drc.ohio.gov

Ernie L. Moore, Director

Decision of the Religious Services Administrator

Request for Accommodation Of Religious Practice

Koger, Cecil #384-698
Toledo Correctional Institution
2001 East Central Avenue
Toledo, Ohio 43608

RELIGIOUS Rastafarian

You have requested accommodation of the following practice based upon the reason indicated

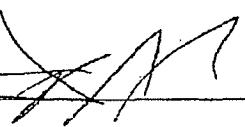
Request to have kosher meals for religious reasons

Your request states a

- Religious Issue
 Non-Religious Issue

It is the decision of the Religious Services Administrator that the request for Accommodation of Religious Practice should be

- Approved
 Not Approved

Signature: 
Gary Sims, Sr
Religious Services Administrator

Date March 4, 2010

Tracking Process

- Chaplains reviews request and makes recommendation
- Request is reviewed by Chaplain, DWSS, and DWO/Designee
- Accommodation is forwarded to Warden for Warden's response
- Warden's decision is forward back to inmate and Chaplain's office is copied
- Inmate receives decision and may appeal if desired
- Warden forwards appeal to OOP for Religious Services Administrator decision
- Religious Services Administrator reviews in consultation with Legal Chief Inspector, STG as needed
- The final decision is made by the Religious Services Administrator (copy of final decision is filed)
- The decision is returned to the Institutional Chaplain the DWSS, and Warden is copied and inmate is notified

C Warden Chaplain Inmate's On Base File and Inmate

RSA Date Received:	<u>3 / 3 / 2010</u>	IM #:	<u>384-698</u>
Institution:	ACI / BECI / CCI / CMC / CRC / DCI / MEPRC / FPRC / GCI / HCF / LAECI LECI / LOCI / MACI / MANCI / MCI / NCCI / NCCTF / NCI / NEPRC / OCF / ORW / OSP - CAMP / PCI / RCI / SCI / SOCF / TCI - CAMP / TOCI / WCI		
Religion:	Apostolic Pentecostal / Asatru / Arakhutian Ausarian Neterian / Black Hebrew / Israelite / Buddhist / Catholic / Christian / Christian Identity / Christian Nazarite / Christian Separatist / Church of God / NGE / Hebrew Israelite / Hebrew Nazarite / Jewish / Islamic / Messianic Jew / Muslim / Nation of Islam / Native American / Orthodox Judaism / Orthodox-Islam / Philadelphia Church of God / Protestant / Rastafarian / Sabbatarian / Satanism / Salvation Army / Santeria / Shi'a Muslim / Wiccan /		
OTHER:			
Request:	Hair / Beard / Kosher Meal / Access to religious material / Alter Cloth / Baptism / Blended teas / Cell separation / Congregate services / Diet Card / Dreadlocks / Halal meals / Head Covering / Holy Days / Incense / Medicine bag / Meditation cushion / Oils / Outside Vender / Pendant / Prayer / Prayer Beads / Prayer Rug / Prayer Shawl / Services in Chapel / Vegan Diet / Vegetarian Diet / Tam / Work proscription / Change of Religion Request / NEEDS FORM 4326, 4327, 4442		
OTHER:			
Action:	Approved	Disapproved	<u>~~~~~</u>
Comments:			
NEEDS FORM 4326, 4327, 4442	Decision Date: _____ / _____ / 2010		

MAR 03 2010

Mr. G. Simms

I would like to know why my dietary needs where denied as my religious accommodation. I am aware of several ~~inst.~~ ^{inst. s} O.D.R.C. who accommodate Rastafari Ital Food why is T.O.C.I. different from any other close inst. ? I have verification for my request why was I denied? I would also like a copied or original appeal I filed to your office. Can you explain as precisely as you are able about the reasons to my dietary needs as Rastafari not being accommodated please.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR

TURNS

D. M. (Signature)

Cecil Roger #384698

R.B. (Signature)



Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction

JAN 21 2010

Toledo Correctional Institution
2001 East Central Avenue
Toledo, OH 43608

Ted Strickland, Governor

www.drc.ohio.gov

Terry Collins, Director

Decision of the Warden

Request for Accommodation Of Religious Practice

NAME: Cecil Koger
NUMBER: A384-698
INSTITUTION: ToCI
RELIGION: Rastafarian

You have requested accommodation of the following practice based upon the reason indicated:

Request to receive Kosher Meals.
Your request states a:

Religious Issue
 Non-Religious Issue

It is the decision of the Warden that the request for Accommodation of Religious Practice should be:

Approved
 Not Approved

Reason: Mr. Koger (A384-698) your request to receive Kosher meals has not been approved. Keeping Kosher is not a vegetarian diet and is provided to those keeping an orthodox Jewish tradition. A vegetarian alternative is provided at each meal upon the request of any individual.

Signature: Robert Welch Date: 1/11/10
Robert Welch, Warden

cc. Warden, Deputy Wardens, Chaplain, Major, Unit File, etc.

RSA

Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction
Institution Religious Accommodation Review Committee
Response To Request For Religious Accommodation

Offender Name	Cecil Koger	Number	A-384698
Current Religious Affiliation	RASTAFARIAN	RE-	DRC4326 Dated: 12/16/2009

Chaplain Recommendation:

NOT RECOMMENDED

THE DEPARTMENT OF REHABILITATION AND CORRECTION HAS NOT SET UP ANY SPECIAL DIETARY REQUIREMENTS FOR THOSE OF THE RASTAFARIAN RELIGIOUS GROUP

Chaplain's Signature	<i>Chaplain Frank Rock</i>	Date	12/20/09
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Accommodation Review Committee Response:

TOLFCO CORRECTIONAL

2009 DEC 28 A 11:30

SPECIAL SERVICES

Committee Chairperson's Signature	<i>[Signature]</i>	Date	12/31/09
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Warden's Decision: Approved Disapproved Refer to Reg. Religious Services Admin.

Comment

SEE ABOVE COMMENTS

Signature	<i>[Signature]</i>	Date	1/4/10
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Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction

Request For Religious Accommodation

To: Chaplain's Office

From:

Offender Name	RAB. CECIL KOSER	Number	# 384-698
Institution	T.O.C.I	Date	12-1-89

- 1 What is the religion to which you belong?

Rastafari the Nyahbingi Order!

- 2 What is the specific accommodation that you are requesting? "Kosher meals"
-
- non beef non Pork non soy it contains MSG.
-
- monosodium Glutamate as well as other
- ~~other~~
- food served
-
- in this kitchen containing season enhancer not natural 621,
-
- 622.

- 3 What is the basis for your requested religious accommodation (How is your request supported by the writings or traditions of your religion)? THE PRACTICING RASTAFARI
-
- LIVES EVERY DAY ON THE BASIS OF HIS HUMAN-RELIGION.
-
- THERE IS TEN AND TWO OF THESE RELIGIONS AROUND WHAT RASTAFARI
-
- PUTS INTO HIS BODY. THIS IS CALLED ITAL. IT IS FOUND IN THE
-
- KUBRA NEGUS, FETHI NEGUS, THE UNITY, THE BIBLE AND
-
- NYAHBINGI TEACHINGS.

- 4 Who are the religious leaders who can verify this request (Please give address and phone numbers, if available)? Rastafarian Universal Order

P.O. BOX 662
 Black Mountain N.C 28711
 OFFICE 828-669-4918 RAS Mills Jacob Marley
 FAX 828-669-0932 RAS Bobby Sullivan

Offender's Signature	
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Cecil Koser

This form is for approval of religious practices or beliefs not currently approved by the ODRC.



Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction

Religious Services
770 West Broad Street
Columbus, OH 43222

Ted Strickland, Governor

www.drc.ohio.gov

Ernie L. Moore, Director

Decision of the Religious Services Administrator

Request for Accommodation Of Religious Practice

Koger, Cecil #384-698
Toledo Correctional Institution
2001 East Central Avenue
Toledo, Ohio 43608

RELIGIOUS Rastafarian

You have requested accommodation of the following practice based upon the reason indicated

Request to have kosher meals for religious reasons

Your request states a

- Religious Issue
 Non-Religious Issue

It is the decision of the Religious Services Administrator that the request for Accommodation of Religious Practice should be

- Approved
 Not Approved

Signature 
Gary Sims, Sr.
Religious Services Administrator

Date February 11, 2010

Tracking Process

- Chaplains reviews request and makes recommendation
- Request is reviewed by Chaplain, DWSS, and DWO/Designee
- Accommodation is forwarded to Warden for Warden's response
- Warden's decision is forward back to inmate and Chaplain's office is copied
- Inmate receives decision and may appeal if desired
- Warden forwards appeal to OOP for Religious Services Administrator decision
- Religious Services Administrator reviews in consultation with Legal, Chief Inspector, STG as needed
- The final decision is made by the Religious Services Administrator (copy of final decision is filed)
- The decision is returned to the Institutional Chaplain, the DWSS, and Warden is copied and inmate is notified

C Warden, Chaplain, Inmate's On Base File and Inmate

RSA Date Received:	2 / 3 / 2010	IM #:	384 - 698
Institution:	ACI / BECI / CCI / CMC / CRC / DCI / MEPRC / FPRC / GCI / HCF / LAECI / LECI / LOCI / MACI / MANCI / MCI / NCCTF / NCI / NEPRC / OCF / ORW / OSP - CAMP / PCI / RCI / RICI / SCI / SOCF / TCI - CAMP / TOC / WCI		
Religion:	Apostolic Pentecostal / Asatru / Arakhutian / Ausarian / Neterian / Black Hebrew / Israelite / Baptist / Buddhist / Catholic / Christian / Christian Identity / Christian Nazarite / Christian Separatist / Church of God / Five Percenters / Hebrew Israelite / Hebrew Nazarite / Jewish / Islamic / Messianic Jew / Muslim / Native American / Orthodox Judaism / Orthodox-Islam / Philadelphia Church of God / Protestant / Rastafarian / Sabbatarian / Satanism / Salvation Army / Santeria / Shi'a Muslim / Wiccan / OTHER		
Request:	Hair / Beard / Kosher Meal / Access to religious material / Alter Cloth / Baptism / Blended teas / Cell separation / Congregate services / Diet Card / Dreadlocks / Halal meals / Head Covering / Holy Days / Incense / Medicine bag / Meditation cushion / Oils / Outside Vender / Pendant / Prayer / Prayer Beads / Prayer Rug / Prayer Shawl / Services in Chapel / Vegan Diet / Vegetarian Diet / Tam / Work proscription / Change of Religion Request / NEEDS FORM 4326, 4327, 4442 OTHER		
Action:	Approved	Disapproved	
Comments:	<i>Please note an acceptable contact</i>		
	Decision Date:	/	2010

FEB 03 2010

Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction
Religious Services Department

Offender's Appeal of Decision Regarding Religious Accommodation

TO Religious Services Administrator
770 West Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43222

Name <i>Wm Cecil Koger</i>	Number <i>384-698</i>
Institution <i>T.O.C.I.</i>	Religious Affiliation <i>RASTAFARI</i>

Your appeal regarding request for religious accommodation is based on **ITAL FOOD**

There has clearly been a lack of knowledge concerning Rastafari food. I have submitted verification of dietary needs of Rastafari to the Mr. Block-Chaplain from Rastafari elders Fax, offices and addresses where given to Mr. Block to do more diving into the facts about Rastafari. He still has not contacted them or engaged in any form of verification as to the mandates of adherents to the specific beliefs. A policy for Rastafari in O.D.R.C. has to start somewhere; if the chaplain does not assist us how is there ever going to be Requirements for those of the Rastafari Religious group. I have supply the paperwork for the practicing Rastafari to ~~Mr. Block~~ Mr. Block he knows and is aware of the special dietary need and has been since I arrived in this inst. The veggie meals do not meet the proper dietary needs of Rastafari they are separate next to regular meals with the same tools, not by a practicing Rastafari and also contains all the same flavor enhancers or seasoning salt as regular meal as well as all veggie supplements in T.O.C.I contain soy contents. The paper work the chaplain received from Elders of Rastafari clearly states when provisions are not met Kosher food are more acceptable than non-Kosher at all. And it has been made clear to the Chaplain that Rastafari are the offspring of Orthodox Jews who claim to Falasha of Ethiopia the original

With this appeal form, you must include African Jew of Ethiopia orthodox church which share if not all, most of the same traditions

DRC Form 4326 Request for Religious Accommodation, and

DRC Form 4327 Response to Request for Religious Accommodation

Offender's Signature <i>Wm Cecil Koger</i>	Date <i>1-14-10</i>
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DRC4442 (03/09)

Distribution Warden, Chaplain, Offender, On Base File

Please send copies back for further legal actions thank you.

Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction
 Institution Religious Accommodation Review Committee
Response To Request For Religious Accommodation

Offender Name Cecil Koger	Number A-384698
Current Religious Affiliation RASTAFARIAN	RE DRC4326 Dated, 12/16/2009

Chaplain Recommendation:

NOT RECOMMENDED

THE DEPARTMENT OF REHABILITATION AND CORRECTION HAS NOT SET UP ANY SPECIAL DIETARY REQUIREMENTS FOR THOSE OF THE RASTAFARIAN RELIGIOUS GROUP

Chaplain's Signature <i>Chaplain Frank Nock</i>	Date 12/20/09
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Accommodation Review Committee Response:

TOLEDO CORRECTIONAL

2009 DEC 28 A 11:30

SPECIAL SERVICE

Committee Chairperson's Signature <i>John R.</i>	Date 12/31/09
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Warden's Decision: Approved Disapproved Refer to Reg. Religious Services Admin

Comment

SEE Above comments

Signature <i>D. Welester</i>	Date 1/4/10
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Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction
Request For Religious Accommodation

To: Chaplain's Office

From:

Offender Name	Ras Cecil Rogers	Number	# 384-698
Institution	T.O.C.T.	Date	12-1-89

- 1 What is the religion to which you belong?

Rastafari the Nyahbingi order!

- 2 What is the specific accommodation that you are requesting? "Kosher meats"

non beef non Pork non soy it contains MSG monosodium Glutamate as well as other ~~other~~ food served in the kitchen containing season enhancer not natural 621, 622

- 3 What is the basis for your requested religious accommodation (How is your request supported by the writings or traditions of your religion)? THE PRACTICING RASTAFARI LIVES EVERY day on the basis of his Humanot beliefs. There is ten and two of these rules around what Rastafarian puts into his body. This is called Ibad. It is found in the Kebra Negest, Fethi Negest, the litany, the bible and Nyahbingi teachings.

- 4 Who are the religious leaders who can verify this request (Please give address and phone numbers, if available)? Rastafarian Universal Order

P.O. BOX 6662

Black Mountain N.C 28711

OFFICE 928-669-4918

RAS Miles Jacob Marley

FAX 828-669-0932

RAS bobby Sultivan

Offender's Signature	Cecil Rogers	Date	
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This form is for approval of religious practices or beliefs not currently approved by the ODRC.

Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction
Request For Religious Accommodation

To: Chaplain's Office

From:

Inmate Name	Cecil Koger, R.	Number	384-698
Institution	Mansfield Correctional Inst.	Date	11-15-06

1 What is the religion to which you belong? *Rastafari*

2 What is the specific accommodation that you are requesting?

The wearing of Tams and the growing of our dreads and beards

3 What is the basis for your requested religious accommodation (How is your request supported by the writings or traditions of your religion)? *I'm writing in the bible and Koran about the dreadlocks being held a lot of meaning towards our religion*

4 Who are the religious leaders who can verify this request (Please give address and phone numbers, if available)

*EELKA MEAD AT THE Myetting Tabernacle
419 836-5506.*

Inmate's Signature	<i>Neil Koger</i>	Date	11-15-06
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This form is for approval of religious practices or beliefs not currently approved by the ODRC

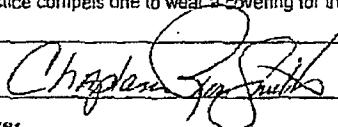
DRC4326 (Rev 06/06)

Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction
Institution Religious Accommodation Review Committee
Response To Request For Religious Accommodation

Inmate Name	CECIL KOGER	Number	A384-698
Current Religious Affiliation	Rastafarian	RE	DRC4326 Dated 11-15-2006

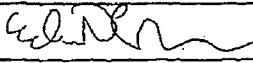
Chaplain Recommendation:

Rastafarians have no formal liturgical rites, sacraments, or ordinances. However, the growing of dreadlocks is considered the sign of commitment to the Rastafarian lifestyle and faith. Therefore, I recommend the temporary ban on hair length for religious purposes be applied to this accommodation request, and that length of hair and beard be determined by and through the office of the Religious Services Administrator for the ODRC. I also recommend that the wearing of tam be commensurate with other faith groups whose religious practice compels one to wear a covering for the head.

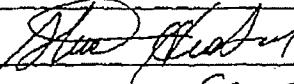
Chaplain's Signature		Date	11/15/2006
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Security Response:

Please decline request

Signature:		Date	12-8-06
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Warden's Decision: Approved Disapproved

Signature:		Date	12/8/06
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Tracking Process Security Issue

- Chaplain reviews request and makes recommendation
- Request is reviewed by Chaplain, DWSS, and DWO/Designee
- Accommodation is forwarded to Warden for Warden's response
- Warden's decision is forwarded back to inmate, the Religious Services Administrator (RSA) is copied (for the OOP files), and Chaplain's office is copied
- Inmate receives decision and may appeal if desired
- Warden forwards appeal to OOP for Religious Services Administrator decision
- Religious Services Administrator reviews in consultation with Legal, Chief Inspector, STG as needed
- The final decision is made by the Religious Services Administrator (copy of final decision is filed), utilizing form DRC4415, "Decision of the Religious Services Administrator on Appeal of Religious Accommodation"
- The decision is returned to the Institutional Chaplain, the DWSS, and Warden is copied and inmate is notified by the Chaplain

DRC4327 (Rev 06/06)



Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction

1050 Freeway Drive North
Columbus, OH 43229

Ted Strickland, Governor

www.drc.state.oh.us

Terry Collins, Director

Decision of the Religious Services Administrator

Request for Accommodation Of Religious Practice

NAME: Cecil Koyber
NUMBER 384-698
INSTITUTION MANCI
RELIGIOUS Rastafarian

You have requested accommodation of the following practice based upon the reason indicated

Request to grow locks, and read mediation of text Galatians for religious reasons
Your request states a

Religious Issue
 Non-Religious Issue

It is the decision of the Religious Services Administrator that the request for Accommodation of Religious Practice should be

Approved
 Not Approved

Reason,

Mr Koyber (384-698) your request to grow dreadlocks has been denied because according to DRC policy dreadlocks possess a security issue

In regards to the reading of mediation materials this material has to be approved by the institution screening committee
In regards the wearing of tams This is not an approved item

Signature Gary Sims, Sr Date 1-9-07
Gary Sims, Sr
Religious Services Administrator

Tracking Process

- Chaplains reviews request and makes recommendation
- Request is reviewed by Chaplain, DWSS, and DWO/Designee
- Accommodation is forwarded to Warden for Warden's response
- Warden's decision is forward back to inmate and Chaplain's office is copied
- Inmate receives decision and may appeal if desired
- Warden forwards appeal to OOP for Religious Services Administrator decision
- Religious Services Administrator reviews in consultation with Legal, Chief Inspector, STG as needed
- The final decision is made by the Religious Services Administrator (copy of final decision is filed)
- The decision is returned to the Institutional Chaplain, the DWSS, and Warden is copied and inmate is notified

C Warden, Chaplain, Case manager, Inmate's File, and Inmate's Master File

Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction

Request For Religious Accommodation

To: Chaplain's Office

From:

Inmate Name	UR Cecil Koyer	Number	384-698
Insitution	Man C.I.	Date	

1 What is the religion to which you belong? RASTAFARI

Received

SEP 13 2006

Regional Director's Office
ODRC

2 What is the specific accommodation that you are requesting? I would like to be able to go into the practice of RASTAFARI and not just the surface but the spiritual the locking of my hair the reading of meditation and texts. The the wearing of our jams

3 What is the basis for your requested religious accommodation (How is your request support by the writings or traditions of your religion)? In THE BIBLE NUMBERS 6 the Kebet NEGAS AND MANY MORE.

4 Who are the religious leaders who can verify this request (Please give address and phone numbers, if available)

An Elder by the NAME OF EELKA DREAD
He can be contacted at 419-836-5506

Inmate's Signature	Date
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Cecil Koyer 8-23-06

This form is for approval of religious practices or beliefs not currently approved by the ODRC.

DRC4326 (Rev 06/06)

P.D. Gary Sims

I'm writing this letter along with the accomodation form to assist you in understanding exactly what it is I am asking of you. Specifically the Tams and hair would coincide with each other and the policy here in Mansfield our hair can be kept neat never covering the ears and can be subjected to searches at anytime, the tams would also ~~keep~~ ^{KEEP} the hair presentable cover our hair in the dinner area and never over our ears. The locks on our head are an essential part of has fa far I must keep my look as an offering to be ~~given~~ given to the most high on judgment day without my look's I have no offering and without that I am not look upon as who I am it states this in the bibles in Numbers:6: The law of the Nazarite These can be accomadated easy because they take care of one another and the policy here in mansfield they Tam cover or hair to keep it in the proper lines with the appearance of general population and my hair it self can be pulled back ~~or~~ behind my ears at all time and ^{kept} ~~to~~ presentable. The religious ~~books~~ books along with the Tam's are being held until word from you, my family is ~~so~~ eager to see me on this path so they are waiting to know if I will receive any of the books they can have sent. Thanks for your time (Paul Korn)

RECEIVED

MAY 07 2018

Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction

Request To Change Religious Affiliation
Religious Services

To: Chaplain's Office

From: Cecil Koger

Inmate Name:	<u>Cecil Koger</u>	Number:	<u>384-698</u>
Institution:	<u>LAS C.T.</u>	Date:	<u>4-11-18</u>

Present Religious Affiliation: Nyah bing

The Religious Affiliation To Which You Desire To Change To:

Islam

Reason For Requesting This Change:

RAMADAN. I HAVE BEEN PARTICIPATING
FOR THE LAST SIXTEEN YEARS

Inmate's Signature:	<u>Cecil Koger</u>	Date:	<u>4-11-18</u>
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Chaplain Approved Disapproved

Chaplain's Signature:	<u>Dawn Hypothib</u>	Date:	<u>04/13/18</u>
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Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction

Request For Religious Accommodation

To: Chaplain's Office

From: CECIL KOGER

Offender Name:	CECIL KOGER	Number:	384-698
Institution:	R.I.C.I.	Date:	4-26-18

1. What is the religion to which you belong?

Nyahbinghi Rastafari

2. What is the specific accommodation that you are requesting?

FOR RASTAFARI MANDATES TO BE RECOGNIZED AND ACCOMMODATED
 growing of natural locks IAH DIET (ORGANIC, Food Vegetarian,
 (Wearing of dreadlocks) no soy)
 OBSEERVANCE / READING MATERIAL /
 TAH'S / KEFUS (Religious Head wear) Fasting days / Holidays

3. What is the basis for your requested religious accommodation (How is your request supported by the writings or traditions of your religion)? THE KEBRA NAGEST, FEHLA NAGEST
 THE BIBLE "Number 6 Vow of NAZARITE" RASTAFARI TENNANTS
 AND MANDATES " RASTAFARI THIRTY " written by RAS ANBUESSE ELANK

4. Who are the religious leaders who can verify this request (Please give address and phone numbers, if available)? RAS I AODAIS - LION OF SUDAH SOCIETY

RAS CHRISTOPHER LION TATE - RASTAFARI UNIVERSAL ORDER

SISTER I MANI NYAH, THE ASSOCIATION OF RASTAFARIAN THEOPHANS

Offender's Signature:	Cecil Koger	Date:	4-26-18
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This form is for approval of religious practices or beliefs not currently approved by the ODRC.

I am writing YOUR OFFICE to inform you of the current mis-information that is supposedly stemming from central office. This incorrectness is surrounding Rastafari, not being accommodated on hair as well as any other religious mandates to. The PVS I have been Rastafari even before I entered Ohio's system in 1998. I have been forced cut and accommodated while being held in the O.D.R.C., how is it possible that I am still being threatened by the same policy I have been exempted from? In 2008 Mr. Timothy Johnson filed a civil complaint which lead to the granting of length and growth Mr. Johnson was Rastafari, how do you explain a directive from your office to T.C.I to cut all Rastafari hair and Rastafari are not exempt ~~or~~ religiously? How do you clarify a meritless security concern that is listed as the reason why Rasta's are to be desecrated? I have been transported from Mansfield-Toledo-Alten-Turnbull, Justifiably how I am today, with Natural looks, my Nati has been uncut untrim unshaven throughout each . . .

EXHIBIT

tables®

A - 4

... TRANSFER, I HAVE SUCCESSFULLY BEEN THROUGH ALL SECURITY PROTOCOL, PLENTY OF TIMES INCLUDING VISITATIONS MY HAIR HAS BEEN SEARCHED AND CLIPPED BY CORRECTION OFFICER AT FAIR INSTITUTIONS OF O.D.R.C THESE ISSUES ARE NOT THE IGNITION BEHIND THESE RESURFACING SECURITY CONCERN ONLY WHEN THERE IS A LARGE AMOUNTS OF AFRICAN AMERICAN MALES THAT START LETTING THEIR NATI GROW ITS NATURAL COURSE, IS WHEN THIS BECOME AN ISSUE. THESE INDIVIDUALS THAT ARE BREAKING THE STANDARD OF EUROPEAN BEAUTY AND GRASPING THE IDEAL OF AN MORE NATURAL COMFORTABLE ORIGINAL STATE OF APPEARANCE HAS TO BE CONFORMED RESTRAINT AND SHAVEN BECAUSE OF THEIR BELIEFS. WHY IS THERE NO POLICY CONCERNING RASTAFARI IN T.C.I? WHY ARE THE RELIGIOUS ACCOMMODATION FORMS NEVER RESPONDED TO? WHILE RASTAFARI IS INCLUDED AS ONE THE FAITH GROUPS IN T.C.I WHY DOES A RASTA LIKE MY SELF NOT ABLE TO OBSERVE OR FAST, I HAVE TO FAST WITH THE MUSLIMS..

... during Ramadan and observe in church on Sundays with the Christians, IF I need assistance from T.C.I as to my fasting and observance I have to get it with other religious observances not Rastafari. This is clearly discriminatory in nature and it is caused by T.C.I STAFF, enforced by T.C.I CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS. While you have individuals expressing the need for this acknowledgement of particular faith with-in T.C.I. the administration as well as chaplain services ignores them, these actions draw the line and establishes T.C.I AS A RASTA FREE institution it is also obvious that Rasta dont belong because Rastafari do not shave, cut or trim, comb and brush. A change has to start somewhere IF all remedies are exhausted in T.C.I without response or reason what is Rasta's suppose to do, WE DO NOT SHAVE CUT OR TRIM! Do the O.D.R.C. know what its pushing for individuals like myself to do? Its not accept the things you can not change, its change the things you...

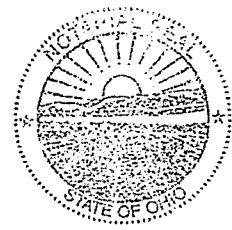
.. CAN NOT ACCEPT, IF THIS CANNOT BE CHANGED
WITH THE PROPER STEPS PROVIDED BY ADMINISTRATIVE
REGULATION OR FEDERAL, UNITED STATES, STATES, ESTABLISH
FOR THE FIRST AMENDMENT PROTECTION, HOW DO YOU
THINK IT SHALL BE CHANGED? BY THE SAME FORCE
THREATENED BY T.C.I ADMINISTRATION? SOMETHING
OTHER HAS TO BE DONE! AND WHY HAS THERE BEEN
NO OTHER CORRESPONDENCE AS TO THESE ISSUES, AS IF
RASTAFARI IS SUPPOSEDLY TO JUST LIE DOWN AND BE
SEPARATED FROM HIS PRECEPTS. RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
PLEASE REVIEW ALL THAT HAS BEEN SUBMITTED CONCERNING
RASTAFARI... AS WELL AS LEGAL CITATIONS.

THANK YOU FOR READING

PLEASE COPY AND SEND
ORIGINAL BACK WITH RESPONSE

AS HELEN ABERNATHY
MR. CECIL ROGER

on this day 24th, in the month
of August, year 2016. I Cecil Koger
appeared before me Mark S. Burson, a
notary of Trumbull county Ohio and
swore to be the creator and
producer of this document without
being forced, threatened, or promised
a reward to do so and provided
proper identification proving he is
who he say he is?



MARK S BURSON
Notary Public
In and for the State of Ohio
My Commission Expires
October 06, 2016

Notary

Cecil Koger

Mark S. Burson
NOTARY PUBLIC/STATEWIDE
JURISDICTION

B day Ms. Loomis ARTICLE # S

Notice of Disciplinary Appeal

Institution:	TCI	RIB Case Number:	TCI-16-004161
Inmate Name:	KOGER, CECIL	Number:	A384698

Warden:

I appeal the Rule Infraction Board's decision rendered on 10-6-16 that found that I violated the following rule(s) 21

TRUMBULL CORRECTIONAL
INSTITUTION

OCT 12 2016

RECEIVED

WARDEN'S OFFICE

In my opinion the decision of the Rules Infraction Board was incorrect for the following reasons.

(Be brief and specific in stating the basis for your appeal)

- I did not waive my right to have 24 hours pass between the time I received a copy of the Conduct Report and my appearance before the RIB. I appeared before the RIB _____ hours after receiving the conduct report.
- I did not waive the presence of the charging official at the RIB hearing. The charging official did not appear.
- The RIB denied my request for a relevant witness.
- No evidence was introduced at the hearing to support the RIB's decision.
- Other (Be Brief and Specific): O.D.R.C Grooming Reg. (not AR 8120 9-2S)
STATES THAT IF THE INDIVIDUAL HOLDS A SINCERE RELIGIOUS
BELIEF HE SHALL BE EXEMPTED FROM THE GROOMING POLICY
I HAVE BEEN EXEMPTED SINCE 2008 BECAUSE I AM RASTAFARI
AS RECENTLY AS 2013 IN TLEN CORR. INST I WAS WRITTEN
UP FOR THE SAME 21 RULE VIOLATION AND FOUND NOT GUILTY
IN R.I.B. MY ACCOMODATION STATED UNTIL HAIR IS DEEMED
A SECURITY RISK IT SHALL BE LEFT AS IS. MY HAIR IS STILL
NOT DEEMED A SECURITY RISK, NO ONE HAS ACCUSED ME
OF HAVING ANYTHING IN IT, NO ONE HAS ASKED TO SEARCH IT!
JUST BECAUSE TCI DO NOT HAVE A POLICY ON RASTAFARI
DO NOT MEAN RASTAFARI DO NOT EXIST. THIS PLACEMENT AND
THREAT OF CUTTING IS A VIOLATION OF FEDERAL STATUTE: R.L.U.I.P.P

Inmate Name:	Number:	Date:
	384-698	10-6-16

DRC 4027 (Rev. 03/04)

ACA 4236

EXHIBIT A-6:
Partially Redacted Video of Force-Cut
Filed Manually with the Clerk